

September 17, 1982

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-82-103

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region II staff on this date.

FACILITY: Mississippi Power and Light Company  
Grand Gulf Unit 1  
Docket No. 50-416  
Port Gibson, Mississippi

Licensee Emergency Classification:  
 Notification of Unusual Event  
 Alert  
 Site Area Emergency  
 General Emergency  
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: DAMAGE TO CHEMICAL LABORATORY

On September 17, at 8:00 a.m. (CST), a small stainless steel cylinder being used to test a reactor cooling water sample exploded and caused minor damage to the plant's chemistry laboratory.

No personnel injuries or radioactive contamination occurred. The licensee recently completed initial fuel loading and sustained initial criticality for a short period of time on August 18.

The cylinder, approximately two and one-half inches in diameter and six inches long, was being used to test water samples, under high pressure and temperature, to determine the nature of organic material detected in the reactor cooling water.

The NRC resident inspector has inspected the area and reports that the explosion damaged the laboratory oven, a sample hood and a nearby wall. No fire occurred.

Region II will review the circumstances associated with the event and take appropriate action to assure the adequacy of the licensee's review and corrective action. No safety-related equipment was involved.

Media interest is anticipated. The licensee will issue a news release. The NRC does not plan to issue a news release.

The State of Mississippi has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the resident inspector at 9:30 a.m. (EDT) on September 17.

Contact: R. C. Butcher, RII 242-5584

D. Verrelli, RII 242-5581

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Regions:  
Licensee: 2:25  
(Reactor Licensees)  
Applicable Resident Site  
1.45

DMB  
(IE-34)

PN NO. PNO-II-92-103

DATE Sept. 20, 1982

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION (PN) DISTRIBUTION

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